

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the Final Official Action dated June 7, 2010. This Request for Reconsideration is intended to be fully responsive thereto.

The Examiner noted that claims 12-14 were allowed. Claim 12 has been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 4-11, 15, 16 and 22-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1, 4-8 and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrett (US 2,823,546) in view of Wakabayashi (US 3,534,923), in view of MacNaughton et al. (US 2003/0083164), in view of Temma et al. (US 2002/0183149), and further in view of Norton (Machine Design, pg. 720-722). Applicant respectfully disagrees. However, in order to expedite the prosecution of the present application, claims 1 and 4-11 have been canceled.

Claim 15 has been amended to change dependency from the deleted claim 9 to the allowed claim 12. No new matter has been added.

Claim 22 has been amended to change dependency from the deleted claim 1 to the allowed claim 12. No new matter has been added.

Claim 27 has been amended to change dependency from the deleted claim 8 to the allowed claim 12 and to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added.

Appl. No. 10/551,089
In re Di Giacomo et al.
Reply to Final Office Action of Jun. 7, 2010

For the foregoing reason, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12-16 and 22-27 define the invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe further discussion regarding the above claim language would expedite prosecution they are invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted:
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